Councils – Purposes, Member Qualifications, Governance, and Deliverables



BOD Y04-20-08-09 [BOD Y06-18-05-07] [Policy]

The APTA Board of Directors, acting under Article X of the bylaws and standing rule 8, has established the councils listed below.

The purpose of a council is to support the association in carrying out its organizational priorities through networking and information sharing related to a specific topic or by a specific audience in compliance with the procedural document APTA Councils Operations and Procedures.

For all councils, any expected deliverables and the associated timeline shall be included in the work plan applicable to the council that is developed annually as part of the association's budget process.

For purposes of this policy, the term "stakeholders" when used below means members of the association and individuals who are ineligible to become members of the association.

Each council shall have a chairperson appointed by the APTA president as provided in the procedural document APTA Councils Operations and Procedures.

1. Council of Catherine Worthingham Fellows

The Council of Catherine Worthingham Fellows is a community for Catherine Worthingham Fellows of the American Physical Therapy Association. The council shall have a steering group consisting of the chairperson and 5 other members appointed by the APTA president.

2. Council of Chapter Presidents

The Council of Chapter Presidents is a community for chapter presidents.

3. Council of Section Presidents The Council of Section Presidents is a community for section presidents.

4. Council of Component Executives

The Council of Component Executives is a community for individuals who provide management services to components of the association. If a component has more than 1 staff person, then the executive director or CEO is the council member.

5. Frontiers in Rehabilitation Science and Technology Council

The Frontiers in Rehabilitation Science and Technology Council is a community for stakeholders who have a special interest in promoting scientific and technological innovation in rehabilitation and movement sciences and in leveraging scientific and technological discoveries to advance physical therapist practice, education, and research. This council shall have a steering group consisting of the chairperson and five other members appointed by the APTA president.

6. Council of Health Systems Physical Therapy

The Council of Health Systems Physical Therapy is a community for stakeholders associated with major health systems who have a special interest in influencing the development of innovative models of care and outcomes measurements, improving coordination across the continuum of care, promoting the value of physical therapists in major health systems, and developing or adopting best practices by such systems.



A major health system is an organization that consists of an acute care hospital and a combination of other postacute care facilities in the continuum of care. The organization may offer care in a variety of integrated clinical settings, such as acute care, inpatient rehabilitation, home care, skilled nursing facilities, and outpatient clinics.

This council shall have a steering group consisting of the chairperson and 8 other members appointed by the APTA president.

7. Council on Prevention, Health Promotion, and Wellness

The Council on Prevention, Health Promotion, and Wellness is a community for stakeholders who have a special interest in developing and disseminating best practices in prevention, health promotion, and wellness (PHPW), promoting understanding of the role of the physical therapist in providing PHPW services, serving as a resource for association components and external groups related to that role, providing opportunities for council members to gain knowledge and to access tools and other resources to provide PHPW services, and connecting PHPW stakeholders to catalyze positive change in society's health beliefs and behaviors. This council shall have a steering group consisting of the chairperson and 3 other members appointed by the APTA president.

Explanation of Reference Numbers:

HOD P00-00-00 stands for House of Delegates/month/year/page/vote in the House of Delegates minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, HOD P06-17-05-04 means that this position can be found in the June 2017 House of Delegates minutes on Page 5 and that it was Vote 4. P: Position | S: Standard | G: Guideline | Y: Policy | R: Procedure

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